GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:571
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
PAK S INVOLVEMENT IN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES
PRABHA RAU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Government have come to the definite conclusion that there is a `direct link` between Pakistan`s intelligence agency ISI and some of the hardcore terrorist groups operating in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Kashmir issue and international campaign against terrorism were discussed in the G-8 Foreign Ministers conference held in Canada in June 2002; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the world community to the continued terrorist activities Pakistan has been indulging in for a long time?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. U.K. Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Jack Straw, in a statement to the House of Commons on 10th June, 2002 said `India has long charged that terrorism has had the covert support of successive Pakistani Governments, and in particular the Inter Services Intelligence Directorate (ISID), the main intelligence agency in Pakistan. Her Majesty`s Government accepts that there is a clear link between ISID and these groups`.

(c) & (d) The international community is aware of Pakistan`s involvement in cross-border terrorism and support to terrorist groups across the Line of Control. For this reason, the Statement of the G-8 Foreign Ministers on 31st May, 2002, called upon Pakistan, in accordance with its commitments, to take concrete action immediately to end infiltration across the Line of Control and to stop terrorist groups operating from territory under its control.